Attorney Docket No. UMC.10020 Page 3 of 4

Application No.: Unassigned
Preliminary Amendment Dated: February 25, 2005

## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (New): A bath for continuous hot-dip galvannealing steel with alloyed zinc, the bath comprising zinc, 0.12 to 0.35 wt.% Al, and 0.02 to 0.11 wt.% Cr.

Claim 8 (New): The bath of claim 7, wherein the bath contains 0.135 to 0.29 wt.% Al and 0.05 to 0.10 wt.% Cr.

Claim 9 (New): The bath of claim 7, wherein the bath only contains zinc, 0.12 to 0.35 wt.% Al, 0.02 to 0.11 wt.% Cr, and unavoidable impurities.

Claim 10 (New): The bath of claim 8, wherein the bath only contains zinc, 0.135 to 0.29 wt.% Al, 0.05 to 0.10 wt.% Cr, and unavoidable impurities.

Claim 11 (New): A process for coating steel on an individual continuous hot-dip line, comprising, in either order, the steps of:

galvanising a first quantity of steel by hot-dipping in a Zn alloy bath;

galvannealing a second quantity of steel by hot-dipping in the Zn alloy bath to produce coated steel and by subjecting the coated steel to a thermal treatment in an annealing furnace,

wherein the Zn alloy contains Al and 0.05 to 0.10 wt.% Cr.

Claim 12 (New): A process for continuously galvannealing dual-phase steel comprising hot-dipping the steel in a Zn alloy bath, wherein the Zn alloy contains 0.12 to 0.35 wt.% Al and 0.02 to 0.11 wt.% Cr.

Claim 13 (New): A process of increasing the annealing reactivity in a furnace used for annealing a product after hot-dipping in a Zn alloy bath, comprising adding 0.12 to 0.35 wt.% Al and 0.02 to 0.11 wt.% Cr to the Zn alloy bath.